

Please amend the application as follows. Attached is the marked-up version of the pending claims, showing the claim amendments made herein.

**In the claims:**

Please amend Claims 13, 22, 23, and 24 as follows.

13. **(Twice Amended)** A method of alleviating the degeneration of ocular cells due to an ocular disease, said method comprising directly contacting an ocular cell *in situ* with an exogenous nucleic acid under conditions permissive for the direct uptake of said exogenous nucleic acid, said exogenous nucleic acid encoding a protein associated with said ocular disease, whereby said exogenous nucleic acid is expressed in said ocular cell.

22. **(Twice Amended)** A method of alleviating the degeneration of ocular cells due to an ocular disease, said method comprising directly contacting an ocular cell *in situ* with an exogenous nucleic acid under conditions permissive for the direct uptake of said exogenous nucleic acid, said exogenous nucleic acid encoding a protein associated with said ocular disease, whereby said exogenous nucleic acid is expressed in said ocular cell, wherein said disease is lysosomal storage disease.

23. **(Once Amended)** A method of treating an ocular wound after surgery, said method comprising directly contacting an exogenous nucleic acid and an ocular cell *in situ* under conditions permissive for the direct uptake of said exogenous nucleic acid by said ocular cell, whereby said exogenous nucleic acid is expressed in said ocular cell.

24. **(Once Amended)** A method of treating an ocular wound, said method comprising directly contacting an exogenous nucleic acid and an ocular cell *in situ* under conditions permissive for the direct uptake of said exogenous nucleic acid by said ocular cell, said exogenous nucleic acid encoding a protein useful in alleviating said ocular wound, whereby said exogenous nucleic acid is expressed in said ocular cell.